



This E-Newsletter is a weekly summary of the events taking place in the United States Congress that affect the State of Michigan and primarily Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Legislative Action From the Week Of 4/7/06

H.R. 3127 Establishing the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act

H.R.513 Establishing the 527 Reform Act

H. Con. Res. 355 Recognizing the Importance of School-Based Music Education

H. Con. Res 366 Congratulating NASA on the 25th Anniversary of the Space Shuttle Program

Hill Highlights

Legislative Action From the Week Ending 4/7/2006

H.R. 3127 Establishing the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act

This bill expands on the Sudan Peace Act of 2004 by strengthening sanctions on individuals and governments seen as responsible for the atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan. It also authorizes additional funds for peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts in the region. This measure blocks the assets and restricts the travel of any individual whom the President has determined is responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region. The bill authorizes the President to provide humanitarian assistance to affected areas, provided that Congress is notified. It also authorizes the President to provide assistance to reinforce the deployment and operations of an expanded African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), with the mandate, size, strength and capacity to protect civilians and humanitarian operations, stabilize Darfur, and, as necessary, dissuade and deter air attacks directed against civilians and humanitarian operations. The measure states that the President should take all necessary and appropriate steps to deny the Sudanese government access to oil revenues. The bill prohibits the provision of non-humanitarian U.S. assistance to countries that violate the military and arms embargo imposed pursuant to U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1556 and 1591. The measure also calls for the suspension of Sudan's membership in the United Nations and recommends that the U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at NATO to advocate for NATO reinforcement of the AU mission. I co-sponsored this bill, which passed the House by a vote of 416 to 3.

H.R.513 Establishing the 527 Reform Act

This bill requires independent "527" organizations—named after the portion of the tax code that defines them—to register with and report to the Federal Election Commission (FEC), effectively barring large, unlimited "soft money" contributions. It exempts groups that have annual gross receipts of less than \$25,000; are organized solely for state or local elections and do not raise — and have not raised in the previous year — money or do not organize for national elections; or exist only to pay expenses of certain newsletters. The bill sets rules for how 527 groups can allocate their funding and outlines certain exemptions for groups that refer to national elections or political parties. I voted against this

REAL SECURITY

The Democratic Plan to Protect America and Restore Our Leadership in the World

House & Senate Democrats unveiled the comprehensive Democratic plan to protect America: Real Security. The Democratic plan for Real Security will protect Americans and restore our country's position of international leadership.

tain exemptions for groups that refer to national elections or political parties. I voted against this measure, which passed the House by a vote of 218 to 209.

H. Con. Res. 355 Recognizing the Importance of School-Based Music Education

This resolution declares that music education and instruction are important components of a well-rounded academic curriculum and should be available to all students. It also recognizes the International Music Products Association's (NAMM) efforts to highlight the importance of school music programs in the academic and social development of children. This measure passed the House by a voice vote.

H. Con. Res 366 Congratulating NASA on the 25th Anniversary of the Space Shuttle Program



This resolution congratulates the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for the 25th anniversary of the first flight of the space shuttle program;

honors Commander John Young and pilot Robert Crippen, who flew the space shuttle Columbia on its first orbital test flight; and commends NASA for its accomplishments. I supported this measure, which passed unanimously.

To read more about these measures, or any other legislation, please visit the Library of Congress' legislative information site at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>.

In the District

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Secures Funding for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Helps Seniors Make Sense of Medicare Prescription Program

In the District

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Secures Funding for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

Congresswoman Kilpatrick recently presented a check for \$200,000 to Presbyterian Villages of Michigan. Funds will be used to enhance and upgrade The Village of Brush Park Manor Paradise Valley in Detroit. Presbyterian Villages of Michigan also plans to



add two Green Houses, an alternative to nursing home care for the elderly, to the site. "I am pleased to support

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan's efforts to provide quality housing for our seniors," said Congresswoman Kilpatrick. "Older Americans helped build this country and made valuable contributions to our society. They deserve access to facilities where they can live in comfort and with dignity and independence."

Helpful Resources

[Directory of Homeownership Assistance in the Detroit Area](#)

Printable booklet of homeownership resources.

[Medicare's New Prescription Drug Plans](#)

Printable handout with important facts to help you

Energy Saving

Brief compilation of tips and tricks to help your energy efficiency in both your home and on the road.

Contact Me

Email Congresswoman Kilpatrick

1610 Longworth HOB
Washington D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2261
(202) 225-5730 fax

1274 Library St.,
Suite 1-B
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 965-9004
(313) 965-9006 fax

3005 Biddle St.,
Room A
Wyandotte, MI 48192
(734) 246-0780
(734) 246-1148 fax

A printable version of this
E-Newsletter is also
available on my website
www.house.gov/kilpatrick

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Helps Seniors Make Sense of Medicare Prescription Program

Congresswoman Kilpatrick hosted town hall meetings in Detroit, Ecorse, and Grosse Pointe about the Medicare prescription drug program. Representatives

from organizations such as Citizens for Better Care, the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Midwest Health System, Neighborhood Service Organization, and the Social Security



Administration addressed several topics, including costs, guidelines, and deadlines, associated with more than 40 plans available in Michigan. "I want to make sure senior citizens and others that may be affected by this plan receive the medications they need without interruption or incident," said Congresswoman Kilpatrick. "These town hall meetings are designed to help people get the facts, understand their options, and make informed decisions." The 2006 enrollment deadline is **May 15**. Those who enroll after this date will incur a penalty of 1% per month. For information about the Medicare prescription drug program, see the [handout](#) on my website.

News You Can Use

April is National Donate Life Month



More than 91,500 people are awaiting organ transplants. Although 74 people receive organ transplants each day, another 18 people die per day waiting for lifesaving organs.

Become a lifesaver:

- Sign and carry a donor card. You can download a printable version at www.organdonor.gov, the official government web site about organ and tissue donation and transplantation.
- Become part of Michigan's Donor Registry.
- Make your wish to be an organ donor known. Discuss your decision with your family, as they may have to give consent.

To learn more about organ donation, volunteer opportunities, or upcoming events, contact the following organizations:

- Gift of Life Michigan: www.giftoflifemichigan.org or (800) 482-4881.
- National Minority Organ and Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP): www.mottep.org or (800) 393-2893.





Michigan's 13th
Congressional District's
[HOME PAGE](#)

- or (800) 393-2893.
• International Association for Organ Donation:
www.iaod.org or (313) 745-2235.

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